Do your drivers still need to maintain their CPC, post- Brexit?

Whether we leave the European Union with or without a deal, professional drivers of vehicles over 3.5 tonnes or Passenger Carrying Vehicles, will still need their Driver Certificate of Professional Competence ("CPC").

Currently, drivers must complete 35 hours of periodic training every 5 years to maintain their Driver CPC. Drivers can be fined up to £1,000 for driving professionally without a Driver CPC and with 3.5 million drivers in the UK and across Europe, this is key to any business.

Brexit and beyond

The UK will still recognise Driver CPC qualifications from EU countries after Brexit however the EU will not recognise UK Driver CPC qualifications if there’s a no-deal Brexit.

This means that in the event of a no-deal Brexit:

- UK drivers working for UK companies from 1 January 2020 will not be recognised as having a valid CPC in the European Union; and
- UK drivers working for EU companies from 31 October 2019 will not be holding a valid CPC. If a driver works for an EU company or wants to work for one, they should consider exchanging their UK Driver CPC for an EU Driver CPC qualification before 31 October 2019.

Eversheds Tip: In order to minimise disruptions to your business, ensure that cross-firm assessments are carried out so this does not affect your scheduled journeys to the EU after the 31 October deadline.

For further information, please visit our website or contact health and safety lawyer and transport specialist:

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